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Red Agent Says He Was Drawn Into Murder Plot

Tells of Being Given Gun to Shoot Kennedy

MANILA (AP) — A Puerto Rican described as a Communist agent for Cuba was the center of controversy Saturday following reports that he had sugested he was drawn into a plot assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Luis Castillo, 24, was presented Friday by officials of the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) to some local reporters after NBI agents said he had confessed under questioning that:

—He had been in Dallas at the time of the 1963 Kennedy assassination and had been given a rifle to shoot "a man in an open car."

—He entered the Philippines in the guise of a Filipino to contact Communist leaders here.

Reports in Saturday morning newspapers said Castillo was seeking asylum in this country because "I am afraid to go anywhere . . . I am as good as dead now."

The reports said Castillo had been subjected by the NBI to questioning under the influence of a truth serum and hypnosis and through lie detector tests.

Efforts to gain further interviews with Castillo were blocked by NBI officials who said additional exposure to the press might hamper their investigation.

The Manila Times reported Castillo had admitted to NBI investigators that he had gone to Dallas at the time of Kennedy's fatal tour of that Texas city (Nov. 22, 1963), met an unidentified man who took a dismantled rifle out of a bowling bag, put it together and gave it to the Puerto Rican.

Castillo added that he had received instructions in Dallas through a woman of German descent whom he identified as a "Mrs. Jole," the Times report said.

It went on to say that Castillo told NBI agents he was not able to use the rifle in Dallas, but heard that a man called "Joe" had succeeded (presumably as an assassin).

Castillo was quoted as saying he had no idea how he got to Dallas and out again because he had been put in a trance.

The NBI said he was arrested in Bulacan Province, south of Manila, March 2, a month after he entered this country supposedly to contact leading members of the Communist Huk movement here.

NBI officials said efforts were being made here and abroad to check Castillo's story. They added that doctors who have examined him found him normal, the Times reported.

It said Castillo was not able to explain how he got from Cuba to Dallas and back. He said he was put into a trance and "When I woke up I was already in Cuba." The newspaper described his condition as "confused" and "jumbled."

The Puerto Rican was quoted as saying he was a private in the "Segunda Organization Defensiva" in Santiago, Cuba, when he was drafted for spy training in a special group called "CID."

He claimed he was arrested

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in Santa Fe, N. M., in 1965 after assuming a false identity and was then deported to the Philippines.